



Memorandum

To: *Stephanie Vaughn (USEPA)
Elizabeth Buckrucker (USACE)*

From: *Scott Kirchner (CDM Smith)
George Molnar (CDM Smith)*

Date: *October 17, 2013*

Re: *Status Report
CPG Oversight of Chemical Water Column Monitoring High Volume Events
Lower Passaic River Restoration Project*

On behalf of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Kansas City District, CDM Federal Programs Corporation (CDM Smith) provided oversight of the Cooperating Parties Group (CPG) remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS) field activities associated with the high volume portion of the chemical water column monitoring (CWCM) program in the Lower Passaic River (LPR). The Louis Berger Group, provided oversight of sampling conducted in Newark Bay.

CDM Smith oversight activities were conducted in late December, 2012 and mid-June, 2013. Oversight included observations of the collection of samples within the LPR. In addition, CDM Smith also collected split samples at select locations. All activities were conducted in accordance with the CPG *Quality Assurance Project Plan, Remedial Investigation Water Column Monitoring/High Volume Chemical Data Collection*.

Copies of field logbook notes can be found in Attachment 1. Copies of the chain of custody (COC) records for split samples are provided in Attachment 2.

General Summary

This summary report covers oversight activities conducted by CDM Smith within the LPR. Sampling events and oversight within Newark Bay are not discussed.

Oversight consisted of observations of in-river activities conducted by CPG contractors AECOM. Ocean Surveys Incorporated (OSI) provided vessel and sampling support.

In summary, the following locations within the LPR were sampled during both events:

- Above Dundee Dam
- River mile (RM) 4.2
- RM 10.2

Upon arrival at each location, the datasonde of a water quality instrument (and inlet end of sampling tubing) was lowered through the water column until it was 3 feet off the bottom as determined by the shipboard fathometer. If the operator “felt” the bottom, the instrument was raised and data collection was delayed to allow any resuspended sediment to dissipate as determined by monitoring real-time turbidity readings. Samples were collected from each location at one depth; mid-water column above Dundee Dam and 3 feet from the bottom at RMs 4.2 and 10.2. Water quality readings were continuously collected and monitored during sampling.

From each location, three types of samples were collected: one sample of solids (collected on a glass fiber filter [GFF]) separated from the water column to be analyzed for polychlorinated biphenyl congeners and homologs (PCBs), and polychlorinated dibenzodioxins/ polychlorinated dibenzofurans (PCDD/Fs); one sample of sorption medium (collected on polyurethane foam (PUF) media within a stainless steel cartridge) through which the filtrate was passed (representative of the dissolved fraction) to be analyzed for PCBs and PCDD/Fs; and four time-weighted composite samples of whole water for analyses of particulate organic carbon (POC), dissolved organic carbon (DOC), and suspended solids concentration (SSC). The POC, DOC and SSC samples were collected from a 20L carboy, calibrated to fill simultaneously with the collection of PCDD/F and PCB samples.

CDM Smith accepted split samples from RM 10.2 during both high volume sampling events as described in the sections below.

Summary of Daily Activities

The following is a summary, by event, of activities observed during CDM Smith’s oversight of CWCM high volume activities:

Event 1. December 17 and 18 2012

On Monday, December 17, sampling crews collected high volume samples from RM 10.2 and above Dundee Dam. Due to the small size of the vessel used above Dundee Dam, oversight staff were unable to accompany field crews. Oversight staff were able to board the vessel used at RM 10.2.

During sampling, crews found that suspended solids were higher than anticipated, most likely due to overnight rainfall. Because of this, target samples volumes were revised at Dundee Dam and RM 10.2 to 300 liters (L) and 100 L, respectively. Oversight staff at the RM 10.2 location noted that field crews pumped for approximately 3 hours, stopping multiple time to change filters, to obtain the target 100 L.

Split samples collected during this event were taken at RM 10.2 and consisted of GFF, PUF cartridges, and surface water from the bulk carboy sample. The GFF and PUF samples were analyzed for PCDD/F and PCBs, water samples were analyzed for POC, DOC, and SSC. As per discussion with EPA, no splits were taken of post-PUF filtrate water samples. Copies of split sample COCs are provided in Attachment 2.

Oversight staff were initially told both during the week prior to, and the first day of the high volume event that there would be room on the vessel sampling at RM 4.2 the following day, Tuesday December 18. However, due to the number of field crew required, the addition of an oversight staff member on board would exceed United States Coast Guard (USCG) capacity requirements. This

decision was apparently not communicated to the field personnel oversight staff spoke with. As a result no oversight was conducted at RM 4.2.

Event 2. June 26 and 27 2013

On Wednesday June 26, sampling crews collected high volume samples from RM 4.2 and above Dundee Dam. Due to the small size of the vessel used above Dundee Dam, oversight staff were unable to accompany field crews. Oversight staff were unable to board the vessel used at RM 4.2 due to it's small size, but did accompany crews on a support boat which was able to tie alongside the sampling vessel. At one point during sampling, oversight staff were able to step onto the sampling vessel and perform oversight.

Over the course of sampling, water depths ranged from approximately 18 to 24 feet due to the tide. Because of the fluctuation in depths, crews had to adjust the depth of the intake as needed in order to ensure that it did not come into contact with the river bottom. Because of this, crews were conservative with the placement of tubing in the water column and instead of suspending it 3 feet above river bottom as specified in the QAPP, maintained it approximately an additional 1 to 2 feet higher off bottom. The result was that at any given time over the course of sampling, the intake was approximately 4 to 5 feet above river bottom. Sampling crews used approximately 26 filters over the course of sampling, and pumped a total of 200 L of river water.

On Thursday, June 27, oversight staff observed sampling at RM 10.2 and accompanied crews on a support boat. Oversight staff were unable to step onto the sampling vessel, and at several times during the day had to leave the area with the support boat crew to bring personnel and supplies back to CPG facility. Sampling crews went through 25 filters over the course of sampling, and pumped a total of 550 L of river water. Tubing intake throughout the day was suspended approximately 3 to 5 feet off the river bottom.

Split samples collected were also collected and consisted of GFF, PUF cartridges, and surface water from the bulk carboy sample. The GFF and PUF samples were analyzed for PCDD/F and PCBs, water samples were analyzed for POC, DOC, and SSC. Copies of the COCs of split samples collected are provided in Attachment 2.

QAPP Compliance

All field activities were conducted in accordance with QAPP procedures.

Attachment 1

Copies of Oversight Field Logbook Notes

Location Lower Passaic River Date 12/10/12

Project / Client CWCM / USACE

P. connectivity

11:15 - PC returns to location RM 10.2
to observe collection of 12H-CE01-T102
-BS and 12H-CE01-

11:30 - Sample time for 12H-CE01-T102-BS. Water depth = 11.7 feet and sample depth = 8.7 ft — pc

$$\bar{X} = 592149.34 \text{ Lt}$$
$$y = 719744.66 \text{ £t}$$

Note = NJ State Plane, NAD83

11:58 - Finished collecting 12th - CE01-T10L-BS

12:08 - Begin sampling 12#-CE01-T102-AS.

Pump is Intake is 3 feet below surface.

This sample is M_S / M_{SD} $\leftarrow p_c$

13:45. Docu sampling — PC

14:05 - P.C. offsite

12/10/12

Location: Lower Passaic River Date: 12-17-12 ⁸⁵

Project / Client CHEN / USAID

A. Rakul High volume event

APE: Modified Level D

Weather: Night, rain 40°F

Personnel: J. (DM-Smith)

POST, AECOM, Gravity

Objective: Oversight and collection of one split sample (High volume event)

0705 JR arrives at CFB facility

0800 Health and Safety briefing held

0805 depart CPG boat
ramp in order to head
down-stream to RM10.2

0830 Arrive at RM 10.2

0835 Gravity Environmental personnel
sets up equipment

PR-2900-103 EPA System

PR-290-102 CPG System

0945 Setup of System 5 continues

1000 one cooler with bottleware
and PUFs are not on boat.

AECOM personnel will check CPC facility x. Jil 12-17-12

Location Lower Passaic River Date 12-17-12
 Project / Client USACE High Volume event

J. Nakowski

1054 Start purge on EPA
 pump in order to prime
 system

1119 AECOM starts to
 purge and prime their
 filter. All equipment
 is purged and calibrated.

1202 AECOM sample time
 21.8 total depth D.R. 12-17-12

1215 pump on

1219 pump off

1240 Note - filters have been
 getting changed out at
 a faster than expected
 pace. Plenty of solids have
 been getting collected, but
 liquid volume has been
 minimal.

1302 pump on

1305 pump off - 41 liters collected
 A total of 20.4 liters has
 been collected

Total current depth to
 bottom 20.7
 D.R. 12-17-12

Location Lower Passaic River Date 12-17-12
 Project / Client USACE High Volume event

J. Nakowski

AECOM Collects Sample

Comp-1

1320 pump on

1323 pump off

1327 pump on

1330 pump off

* 34.95 liters have been
 collected

1335 Post-puff Comp-2
 sample collected

Current sampling depth is
 post 3 15.2' below water surface
 post 4 14.8' sample depth below water

1515 Nine post puff samples
 have been collected.

* 1524 Split sample time
 Sample id 12I-CE05-T102-
 BW01-C water sample

100 total liters was pumped
 at RM 10.2

1700 depart site

12I-CE05-T102-BW01-C (filter) PUFF BMO1 BMO2

J. Nakowski 12-17-12

RM10.9 Groundwater Seepage investigation

- 1130 Location #2 check
Complete
- 1200 Location #1 check
Complete
- 1215 CMA associates arrive
onshore at Lyndhurst fire
department boat ramp.
- 1220 JR is informed that all
the data that has been
recorded was uploaded
onto a CMA computer
- 1230 JR departs Site

JR
4-9-13

2nd High Flow Event

- PPE: Modified Level D
- Weather: 60° Fahrenheit, Rain
- Personnel: JR (CDM Smith)
- Objective: Split Sampling and
oversight
- 0530 JR arrives at second
river on the corner of
Mill and Washington Streets
in Belleville, NJ. CDM-Smith was
informed of a Gam tributary
start time.
- 0555 Ryan McCarthy informs JR
that Kris Van Pearson of AECOM
is heading over here to sample.
- 0620 KVV arrives
- 0635 begin equipment setup
- 0709 13A-CELL-T2R1-AS-C
Sample time
- 0750 Sampling Complete
- 0820 Complete putting away
equipment.
- 0840 Arrive at CP6 facility
- 0900 Bring in supplies and
bottleware
- 6-7-13

2nd High Flow event

0030 Discuss logistics with

Ryan McCarthy.

1015 depart Site

J.R.

6-7-13

2nd High Flow event

PPE! Modified Level D

Weather: 70°F

Personnel: JR (CDU-Smith)

Objective: Collection of falling
limb sample at RM 10.2

1020 JR arrives at River

Mile 6.7 behind Burger
King fence line and awaits
arrival of vessel.1025 JR calls Helen of Accom
to inform her of arrival.

1050 Board boat

1115 Arrive at RM 10.2

1150 OSI tries to connect YSI. It
is not connecting

1215 YSI is now working.

*1230 13A-CE21-T102-BS-C
Sample time - COMS split

1303 13A-CE21-T102-AS-C

Sample time

1340 JR departs boat.

J.R.

6-20-13

LPR

6-26-13

USACE

2nd High Volume event RM4.2

PRE: Modified Level D

Weather: 70°F

Personnel: JR (comsmith) OSI,
AECOMObjective: Oversight of high Volume
Sampling at RM4.20630 JR arrives at Robin's
Reef boat ramp in
Bayonne, NJ to meet OSI.0645 JR boards OSI support
boat and awaits boat
from Liberty Landing in
Newark

0800 depart Robin's Reef

0910 tie up to sampling boat
at RM4.20915 OSI, AECOM, and gravity
environmental start to
Setup equipment.1030 AECOM verifies same flow
rate

1042 Pump on

1045 Pump off

1045 Filter Change
D.R. 6-26-13

LPR

6-26-13

USACE

2nd High Volume event RM4.2

Note - Pump at 18.1 total depth 24'
Turbidity 1011101 Pump back on filter has
been changed twice

1103 pump off

1115 NTU has dropped down to
30.1140 5 Filter changes have
taken place thus far. Thirty-five
liters have been purged1230 Thirteen filters have
been changed. Eighty-six
liters have been pumped.1245 100 Liters have been
collected.1300 110 Liters have been
collected. 6-26-13Note: 13.4' depth of pump. The pump
was pulled up to least turbid
water depth. Current NTU
is 21.1309 pump off (Filter change);
total Volume 117 Liters1312 Filters changed - pump on
D.R. 6-26-13

114

Location

LPR

Date

6-26-13

Project / Client

USACE

2nd High volume event RM4.2

1333 One-hundred and thirty liters have been pumped

1355 One-hundred and fifty-five liters have been pumped

1408 One-hundred and sixty-nine liters have been pumped

1435 Support vessel heads to RM 6.7 to pick up supplies

1450 Arrive at 6.7 and ~~drop~~ ^{receive supplies}

* Note 200 Liters pumped, 26 filters used

1505 Arrive at RM 4.2. Samples have been collected as planned.

1520 Depart RM 4.2

1530 Arrive at RM 6.7 to pick samples off

1535 Depart for Rabbins Reef (Beyonne)

1600 Arrive at Rabbins Reef.

1605 Call George Mohar to update him with status.

1620 Depart Site
D.R. 6-26-13

Location

LPR

Date

6-27-13

Project / Client

USACE

2nd High Volume event RM4.2

PRE! Modified Level D

Weather: 75°F

Personnel: JR, OSI, AECOM, Gravity Environmental

Objective: High volume Sampling RM4.2

0615 JR arrives onsite and boards boat

0724 Depart CP6

0749 Anchor down at RM 10.2, Depth to bottom 10.9

BGS

* Note - D.R. 6-27-13

0755 OSI, AECOM, and Gravity Environmental start to setup equipment

0900 Gravity Environmental is

Currently priming and Calibrating equipment; 10.6 NTU

0905 ~~12.7 dtb~~ ^{12.7 dtb} JR 6-27-13

14 dtb; sample depth 8.11

0913 Pumps ON

0954 NTU 19;

1016-73 liters pump; NTU 20;

D.R. 6-27-13

116

Location

LPR

Date

6-27-13

Project / Client

USACE

2nd High Volume event; RMB.2

First filter changed

12.3 sample depth; 16.2 TD

1120 One-hundred and fifty-four
liters have been pumped

* 1125 Regular Filter Samples

1d - 13C-CE05-T102-BP01-

JAR-C * Note all sample

times will reflect pump
off time at the end of day1345 305 Liters; 14 filters
changes* Note-pump has been roughly
3 to 5 feet off of river
bottom throughout sampling,1405 Effluent samples are
currently being collected

1415 335 Liters pumped

* AECOM employee Katelyn
Sylvester left the site due
to heat exhaustion. She
has thrown up and stopped
sweating. She has been
transported to the hospital.1515 400 Liter have been pumped
6-27-13

117

Location

LPR

Date

6-27-13

Project / Client

USACE

2nd High Volume event; RMB.2

1545 TD 16.2; sample depth 11.4;
430 Liters pumped1600 460 Liters have been collected
thus far.

1649 501 liters have been collected

1715 540 liters have been collected

* 1723 Sample time for all

Split Samples Collected today

Sample #

Analysis

13C-CE05-T102-BM01-PUFF-C

PCC-PCDF

"

BM02

"

13C-CE05-T102-BP01-GFF-C

"

JAR"

"

BW01"

PCC-DOC

BW02

SSC

Note: BM-01 was first puff inline
BM02 was second puff inline
GFF was glass fiber filter

Jar was flat regular filters

BW01 was prefiltered

BW02

"

"

1745 JR received pre-filtered
bottleware which was warm.
These containers were not kept
O.R 6-27-13

Location

LPR

Date

6-27-13

Project / Client

USACE

2nd High Volume event, RM 6.2

on ice

1800 hv Sampling complete

1850 Arrive at boat dock and
depart.

Jag

6-27-13

Location

Date

Project / Client

Attachment 2
Copies of Signed Chain of Custodies

AirbillNo: Hand Deliver

CHAIN OF CUSTODY RECORD

Lower Passaic River - CWCM R2

Case Complete: False

Cooler #:

No: 2-062413-155101-0032

Lab: EPA-DESA laboratory

Lab Address: 2890 Woodbridge Ave

Lab Phone: 7323216707


[illegible]

Special Instructions:	SAMPLES TRANSFERRED FROM
	CHAIN OF CUSTODY #

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Items/Reason	Relinquished by	Date	Received by	Date	Time
		12-18-12			